Introduction

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The USPS Handwritten Digit database is a set of handwriting data containing 1100 examples of the digits 0-9. To process and learn this data, a linear regression algorithm is implemented with

Data Preparation

To prepare for training, data is pulled from the USPS handwriting set and processed. getfeatures () is called to find the symmetry and intensity of each data point.

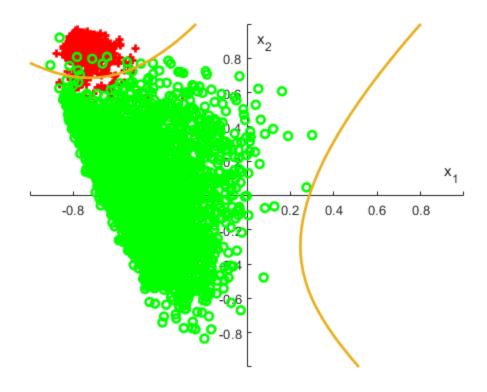
```
load('usps_modified.mat');
[xd,yd] = getfeatures(data);
x = nl_transform(xd);
for i = 501:height(yd)
    yd(i) = -1;
end
```

Validation

10-fold validation was performed on the data set, and produced positive results. Classification error and squared error were just under 3% for all values of lambda and for both the in and out samples. For all four of those cases, a lambda of 0.01 proved to be the most accurate, though only by about 0.1% in each case.

```
folds = 10;
lam = [0.001; 0.01; 0.1; 0.25; 0.5; 0.75];
ein = zeros(height(lam),1);
eout = zeros(height(lam),1);
for i = 1:height(lam)
        [tce,tse,vce,vse,~] = validation(x,yd,folds,lam(i));
        ein(i) = mean(tse);
        eout(i) = mean(vse);
end
ein_avg = mean(ein);
eout_avg = mean(eout);

% plot for illustration
[~,~,~,~,g] = validation(x,yd,folds,0.01);
h_plot(xd, yd, g);
```



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